



Larry Brown

## Players Pick Brown For MVP Award

By MURRAY OLDERMAN

WASHINGTON D.C. — (NEA)

Larry Brown, the irrepressible running back of the Washington Redskins, was today named the winner of the 18 annual Jim Thorpe Memorial Trophy as the most valuable player in the National Football League.

The recipient of the award, instituted by Newspaper Enterprise Association in 1955 is determined by a vote of his peers, the players on the 26 teams in the National Football League.

Brown was the runaway winner this season, just as he had run away from tacklers to lead the National Football Conference in rushing.

In a season which produced nine men who gained more than 1,000 yards on the ground — a decade ago only five different men in professional football history had attained that figure — the compact Redskin's runner was the nonpareil.

He is the first ball carrier to win the coveted trophy since the great Jim Brown of the Cleveland Browns in 1965.

"I'm really honored," said the latter-day Brown, with feeling, when told of his selection. "It's a surprise and I don't even know what to say. That's the same award that went to Jim Brown and John Unitas — all these individuals I've admired."

Brown has completed his fourth pro season with the Redskins. He was an obscure eighth round draft choice from Kansas City in 1961 with marginal size 5'11 and 195 pounds for a running back in the NFL.

Lombardi liked his moves as a runner and his guts but couldn't figure a reaction lag until he checked Larry's hearing. A special device fitted in his helmet saved his career.

Football has brought the good life to Brown, but he doesn't forget the poverty of his childhood, spent in a rough Pittsburgh area. A college sociology major, he works with deprived children. On Christmas Day, with reserve quarterback Sam Wyche and Harold Bell, who runs a local "Saturday" program at the Hillcrest Recreation Center for ghetto kids, he threw a party for 100 youngsters.

This has been the Year of the Running Back in professional football, and Larry has been the pacesetter. He reached a career high of 1,216 yards rushing, although he was held out of the last two games of the regular schedule so he would be in shape for the playoffs.

"Many have said," surmises Larry, "it's due to the moving of the hash marks closer to the center of the field, or that we run more because of the double zones teams are using on pass defense. I think it's due mostly to the fact there aren't actually too many great quarterbacks in football right now. There are a lot of younger ones playing in the league and it takes awhile to learn to read defenses, so most teams are going with the run because it's safer."

When you have Larry Brown in the backfield, it's also a cinch way to pick up yardage. He has averaged 4.3 yards every time he has taken a handoff in pro ball.

Because he takes a tremendous battering (he carries the ball an average of 24 times a game) Brown has built his weight up

to 205 pounds. He also runs smarter.

"As a rookie," he says, "you run scared. You try not to take a loss. You outrun the blocking and you make minor mistakes sometimes a big one. With experience you recognize defenses and become a more complete ballplayer, running pass routes and blocking."

The last two Redskin seasons under George Allen, the most successful in Washington since 1945, produced a change in Larry's football thinking.

"We've absorbed," he says, "the George Allen philosophy of everybody pulling together. We got away from individual goals.

### HONOR ROLL

The roster of Jim Thorpe Memorial Trophy winners:

1955 — Harlon Hill, Chicago Bears.

1956 — Frank Gifford, New York Giants.

1957 — John Unitas, Baltimore.

1958 — Jim Brown, Cleveland.

1959 — Charlie Conerly, New York Giants.

1960 — Norm Van Brocklin, Philadelphia.

1961 — Y. A. Tittle, New York Giants.

1962 — Jim Taylor, Green Bay.

1963 — (tie) Y. A. Tittle, Jim Brown.

1964 — Lenny Moore, Baltimore.

1965 — Jim Brown, Cleveland.

1966 — Bart Starr, Green Bay.

1967 — John Unitas, Baltimore.

1968 — Earl Morrall, Baltimore.

1969 — Roman Gabriel, Los Angeles.

1970 — John Brodie, San Francisco.

1971 — Bob Griese, Miami.

1972 — Larry Brown, Washington.

by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three Atlantic Coast Conference powerhouses are waiting like vultures for somebody to knock off the heretofore unknown UCLA Bruins.

It would become an ACC world.

The Bruins, at the doorstep of college basketball's longest winning streak, remain a strong No. 1 in The Associated Press poll. But, UCLA can't look back.

National scoring leader North Carolina State is No. 2 with a 12-0 record, the University of North Carolina is No. 3 at 15-1 and Maryland is fourth with a 12-1 mark.

UCLA has 59 straight victories and can tie the all-time record of 60 in a Thursday night game in Chicago against Loyola. If that goes okay, the Bruins shoot for No. 61 Saturday against Notre Dame at South Bend, Ind.

If the Bruins stumble, the ACC threesome will be waiting to charge for the top AP ranking that has been almost exclusively UCLA's for a decade.

However, the ACC strongboys will also begin knocking one another off when the league gets into heavy home-and-home play. North Carolina State captured the only major matchup to date with a triumph over Maryland.

North Carolina plays at Maryland Saturday night. The Terps then play on the road at N.C. State next week. The first of two North Carolina-N.C. State battles comes Feb. 5 on the Wolfpack's floor.

Long Beach State, 15-1, is ranked fifth in this week's balloting by a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters, followed in the Top Ten by Indiana, 11-2; Missouri, 13-2; Minnesota, 11-2; Alabama, 10-1; and Marquette, 12-2.

Houston, 12-2, heads the second 10 ranked teams, followed by Southwestern Louisiana, 12-1; Jacksonville, 13-2; Providence,

1. UCLA (41) 838  
2. N. Carolina St. (1) 756  
3. North Carolina 581  
4. Maryland 575  
5. Long Beach St. 555  
6. Indiana 288  
7. Missouri 283  
8. Minnesota 277  
9. Alabama 275  
10. Marquette 209  
11. Houston 183  
12. Southwestern La. 173  
13. Jacksonville 149  
14. Providence 147  
15. St. John's, N.Y. 146  
16. San Francisco 141  
17. Memphis St. 139  
18. Kansas State 138  
19. New Mexico 136  
20. Purdue 130

The Top 20, with first place votes in parentheses and total points. Points tabulated on basis of 20-18-16-14-12-10-9-8-etc.:

NEW YORK — (NEA) — This incredible story begins: "In December 1944, I was hanged at Auschwitz."

Yet Sam Kessel lived to write about it in "Hanged at Auschwitz" (Stein and Day), winner of the Grand Prix Litteraire de la Resistance, and recently translated from French into English.

Kessel, once a promising French boxer, had been arrested by Nazis for his two-year involvement in the French resistance and for being Jewish.

Kessel's rope broke. But no reprieve. He was brought to the notorious Jacob, chief kapo (prisoner-collaborator) and camp's official killer.

Jacob, according to Kessel, had been a sparring partner for Max Schmeling, the one-time world heavyweight champion. This knowledge was Kessel's only chance for survival, he felt.

"I argued that one boxer could not kill another boxer," writes Kessel. "He looked at me in surprise."

"Did you box?" asked Jacob.

"The words poured out of me, I named names, described bouts. And though he obviously hadn't heard of me and my ring career, our common passion for boxing was a bond. I felt that he was becoming interested, that he was beginning to struggle with himself. I thought that I detected a flash of something was it sympathy? — in his cold gray eyes."

Jacob saved him. It was the second time that Kessel's boxing background moved an enemy to spare his life.

About a year before that, Kessel was marching in a column to the gas chamber to be exterminated. He noticed that one of the S.S. troopers at the crematorium had the marks of a boxer: broken nose, ridges over the eyes, cauliflower ears.

Dolton Thornridge dropped from the ratings altogether after getting beat by Chicago. Kessel walked over to him, and aid, "Boxer?"

"Boxer? Ja!"

"He didn't wait for me to explain," writes Kessel. "He understood, too bad a broken nose." The S.S. man put the condemned man on the back seat of his motorcycle, and drove him to safety, for the time being.

"Tom Johnson of the Rockne coach of the East in next Tuesday night's game at New York's Madison Square Garden, picked defensemen Dallas Smith of Boston and Gary Bergman of Detroit, centers Jean Ratelle of the New York Rangers and Dave Keon of Toronto, and wingmen Paul Henderson of Toronto, Ed Westfall of the New York Islanders, Ken Hodge of Boston and Bob Johnson of California.

Appel's father was center and captain for the Toronto Marlies in the first NHL All-Star game 26 years ago. The youngster is the first son of a former player to be selected.

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## Loyola Not Frightened By Bruins

CHICAGO (UPI) — Loyola's

Ramblers won't be running scared tonight when they take on the awesome task of preventing unbeaten and No. 1 ranked UCLA from tying their national college record for most consecutive wins on the basketball court.

"We've already played Minnesota and Marquette," Loyola Coach George Ireland, who once coached a national championship Rambler team himself, said.

"They're pretty good basketball teams, and facing UCLA may be a step up in class, but it's a little step. If we play the way I know we can, we'll give them a hell of a game."

UCLA moves into the contest, the nightcap of a Chicago Stadium doubleheader sponsored Loyola, with a 14-0 record this season and 59 straight victories, a string that began Jan. 30, 1971.

A win would tie the 60 straight hung up by San Francisco, featuring Bill Russell and Casey Jones, from Dec. 7, 1955, until Dec. 17, 1957, when Illinois triumphed.

The captain of that Illinois team was Harry Schmidt, now the Illini coach, whose team will play in the doubleheader opener against Notre Dame, strangely the last team to beat UCLA.

**Wrestlers To Win**

Ireland figured that his starters, even including a freshman, John Willey, had the weapons to win. Forward Nate Hayes, he said, is "one of the best Frank Sanders at guard, "we should have no trouble with the press."

Center Paul Cohen, though giving away height to either Bill Walton or Swen Nater of UCLA at center, is capable of doing the job against them," Ireland said.

"Our kids should be proud to play them," he added. "We'll have no trouble bringing them up for the game. We never do."

"We'll press them and try to keep them outside. Then we'll be very selective in our shooting, and hope we shoot well."

No Slowdown Game

"I wouldn't play a slowdown game, though. The fans don't want to see that and it wouldn't be fair to them. There could be 18,000 people there and they want to see a basketball game."

Ireland was as concerned about how UCLA Coach Johnny Wooden feels about playing Loyola as he was about his own feelings.

"We've beaten him a couple of times," he said. "Once we beat him in overtime, and another time when he had (Walt) Hazzard and (Gail) Goodrich, about 112 to 92 or something like that. Every year we play the No. 1 team, so we're not unaccustomed to this."

With Ireland's confidence, maybe his kids will pick it up too, and anything could happen.

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